

Country Report Of Afghanistan

His Excellency minister of interior, Islamic republic of Iran

His Excellency representative from OIC secretariat.

Distinguished head of civil registration directorate of the OIC member countries.

Honorable guests ladies and gentlemen

Good morning

On behalf of the government and people of Afghanistan I would like to extend my best wishes and regards to the government and people of Islamic republic of Iran and honorable members and guests in the meeting.

I would like to thank the ministry of interior of IRI and OIC secretariat for organizing and inviting the Afghanistan delegation to this important meeting.

Afghanistan is one of the lowest income countries in the world. It has one of the lowest GDP and development index.

Afghanistan is suffered from more than three decades of war and conflict. Due to the war most of infrastructures especially the vital round and identity recording systems has been destroyed and affected.

By attending to this meeting we hope to learn from experiences from other countries to rebuild our systems.

Distinguish member's honorable guests!

Afghanistan has a large history of statistic from house hold, trees, animals, on purposes for collecting taxes and soldiers from the time of

Mahmood Ghaznawi kingdom which goes back to a thousand years back.

But official issuance of identity cards started in 1919 after Afghanistan independence. Statistics department established in 1922 under the ministry of interior. The department was promoted to a directorate in 1939. From 1939-1974 issuing identity cards was compulsory for all male citizens but for female citizens it was on a voluntary base. From 1974-1977 the last countrywide issuance of identity cards took place and it was decided that every ten years identity cards should be re-issued to the citizens. But: due to Russians invasion and war it didn't happen. After the coup in 1978 ID card issuance was limited to the areas of the government control.

After establishment of the new government in 2002 ministry of interior republic of Afghanistan decided to computerize the ID system. But due to funding limitation it did not take place. From 2010 preparation for computerizing the system is going on and fortunately we were able to start the e-NID project this year focusing in Kabul , This project is planned to issues ID cards for the whole population in about 3 years.

The afghan e-NID project is a backbone project for e-government infrastructure in Afghanistan .

This project issues polycarbonate smart cards for each citizen with IC chips embedded in each card . the chip stores finger print characteristics and other personnel data of every citizen everything stored on the chip is secured by PKI encryption .

The e-NID smart card is a multiplication CARD that can be used by citizen in the different e-government sectors .

Printing on the card is not ink transfer but uses laser machines for engraving data on the polycarbonate cards .

In 2003 the directorate is promoted to General Directorate which over see three directorates of ID issuance department, vital records department and foreigners affairs department.

The population registration department as I mentioned planned new ID cards by establishes and computerized system to issue smart ID cards this year it will make the process more transparent and reliable. It will decrease the chance of fake IDs and corruption.

The computerized ID cards could be used during elections and would be the base for E- Government in future as well.

The vital statistic Directorate is responsible for birth and death registrations. It collects information about marriage, divorce and immigration at the country level. The vital record project is designed in a way to be accessible to all who are involved in the process. The records are accessible to health facilities, Mosques Imams, community leaders and elders in the cities and rural areas and established about 4300 local centers They register birth, death and report to the local population registration responsible people. By registering new born and issuing birth certificate every one knows their exact age. It would be useful for advice, proper medicine during the treatment, and also knowing the exact age prevents to employ children in perspirations and military services and rebuff the early marriages. And on

the other hand we would have the exact statistic from the children and all the population which we need for planning and services. The marriage and divorce reports are also collected by our local governmental departments.

Directorate of foreigner's affair is responsible for registering foreigners who are visiting Afghanistan. It also looks after afghan citizens who have foreign citizenship and whom are getting or leaving afghan citizenship. The tourism department provides facilities for tourists visiting Afghanistan.

This was a brief summary of the achievements of the General Directorate. I hope to learn from your experience. Thanks again for your attention and support.